

in the color and size of the seeds and in the adaptability of the plant to varying soils and condition. The feeding value of lentil forage is about equal to that of red clover. It should be tried wherever crimson clover succeeds.

2095. CUCUMIS MELO.

Winter muskmelon.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February 13, 1899.

"Olive d'hiver." "These melons are kept all the winter, and are very common in Europe. Have not seen them in America." (*W. T. Swingle.*)

2096. CUCUMIS MELO.

Cantaloupe.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February 13, 1899.

"Algerian." Highly recommended. "A rather dense-growing plant with numerous short branches. Leaves dark green, slightly cut, and very much folded at the edges, which gives them the appearance of being five-lobed and almost funnel-shaped. Fruit slightly elongated, sometimes spherical, bearing roundish warts or scabs, which, together with the bottoms of the furrows, are of a very dark-green, almost black color, contrasting strongly with the light silvery hue of the other parts of the ribs. The dark-green parts finally change to an orange color, but this is not fully developed until the fruit is overripe, so that it should be gathered before the change takes place. The length of the fruit varies from 6 to 10 inches and the diameter from 5 to 8 inches. The flesh is thick, juicy, perfumed, and always sweet. It ripens half late; only one or two fruits on each plant. One of the most hardy summer melons, perhaps surpassing all others in uniformly good quality." (*Vilmorin.*)

2097. CUCUMIS MELO.

Cantaloupe.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February 13, 1899.

"Early black rock." Early; easily cultivated. "Fruit nearly spherical, but slightly flattened at the ends, with ribs clearly but not deeply marked; skin usually smooth and without warts, very deep green, almost black, turning orange when ripe. The flesh is orange colored, thick, sweet, perfumed, of excellent quality. The melons are 5 to 6 inches long and 6 to 7 inches through. A plant may carry two melons for the general crop. One of the best and most easily grown of the early melons." (*Vilmorin.*)

2098. CUCUMIS MELO.

Cantaloupe.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February 13, 1899.

"Prescott fond blanc de Paris or Large Paris white Prescott." The most generally cultivated variety about Paris; said to be very good; attains a large size. "A vigorous grower. Fruit large, very much flattened at the ends; ribs broad, much wrinkled, covered with knobs and protuberances of all shapes, and irregularly variegated with dark and pale green on a whitish ground. The ribs are separated by very deep, narrow furrows. Flesh orange, very thick, exceedingly fine-flavored, juicy, and melting. The fruit is only 5 or 6 inches long, but is 6 to 12 inches thick. A plant is generally allowed to carry only one melon, or rarely, two." (*Vilmorin.*) Very good quality. "I saw small plants of 'Prescott fond blanc melon' yesterday. They were growing in hotbeds, afterwards to be transplanted to cold frames, two to a square yard, each plant being allowed to bear only one melon. These will ripen at some time in May, and may sell as high as \$6 each in Paris, and I am told that the average price to the market gardener for forced melons is about \$2.50. I think we should seriously consider this industry of melon forcing, since the amount of manual labor required is very small and Americans are very fond of good melons. I believe there is a special variety of the 'Prescott' for forcing. The melons are about 4 to 6 inches in diameter. The slices are said to be sold in the restaurants for from 40 to 60 cents each."

2099. CUCUMIS MELO.

Cantaloupe.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February 13, 1899.

"Prescott early frame." Very early; good for forcing. "Fruit spherical or slightly flattened at the ends, with the ribs marked, faintly warty, marbled with dark green on a pale green ground, and with the bottom of the furrows a uniform olive green. Flesh orange, thick, juicy, melting. Melons 4 to 6 inches in diameter. A plant should carry only one fruit for the early crop, and two for the general crop."